within said foot ulcer, a drape for covering and sealing said foam within said foot ulcer, and a fluid communications means in fluid communication with said foam;

a foot wrap having an inflatable bladder for applying a compressive force over a second region of said patient's foot, concurrent with the introduction of said negative pressure, to compress the veins of said patient's foot and thereby partially empty said veins;

a negative pressure source for supplying negative pressure to said wound dressing through said fluid communication means; and

a positive pressure source for supplying compressive force to said foot wrap.

17. (Amended) A medical apparatus for therapeutic treatment of foot ulcers, comprising:

a wound dressing for introduction of a negative pressure over a first region of a patient's foot including a wound, wherein said wound dressing is comprised of a porous foam positioned within said foot ulcer, a drape for covering and sealing said foam within said foot ulcer, and a fluid communications means in fluid communication with said foam;

a foot wrap having an inflatable bladders for applying a compressive force over a second region of the patient's foot, the second region at least partially overlapping the first region;

a negative pressure source that supplies negative pressure to the wound dressing through said fluid communication means; and

a positive pressure source that supplies compressive force to the foot wrap.

Attorney Docket No.: VAC.331A CPA of Serial No.: 09/458,280

Title: THERAPEUTIC APPARATUS FOR TREATING ULCERS